

IN THE CLAIMS:

Line By Line Amendment:

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1. (Amended) A holder for a scouring device comprising:

a) a base;

b) a pair of opposed legs extending from the base, each leg comprising a central portion and an end portion; and

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c) a gripping assembly positioned at the end portion of each of the opposed legs and including a gripping means comprising a plurality of spaced apart grippers movable in unison from a first position sufficient to enter the scouring device at the same time to secure the holder to the scouring device wherein the scouring device is held by the holder without the application of pressure by the user to a
15 second position wherein the user maintains pressure on the holder to release the grippers at the same time from the scouring device without the user having to touch the scouring device during movement from the first position to the second position.

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13. (Amended) A method of gripping a scouring device comprising:

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1) placing the scouring device in contact with a holder comprising:

a) a base;

b) a pair of opposed legs extending from the base, each leg comprising a central portion and an end portion; and

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- c) a gripping assembly positioned at the end portion and including a gripping means comprising a plurality of spaced apart grippers movable in unison from a first position sufficient to enter the securing device at the same time
- 5 to secure the holder to the scouring device to a second position to release the scouring device,
- 2) applying pressure to the opposed legs at said central portion to bring the opposed legs closer together, and
- 3) releasing the pressure on the opposed legs to thereby enable
- 10 the gripping means to move to said first position to secure the holder to the scouring device.

Sub B.7
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1. A holder for a scouring device comprising:

- a) a base;
- b) a pair of opposed legs extending from the base, each leg comprising a central portion and an end portion; and
- c) a gripping assembly positioned at the end portion of each of the

opposed legs and including a gripping means comprising a plurality of spaced apart grippers movable in unison from a first position sufficient to enter the scouring device at the same time to secure the holder to the scouring device wherein the scouring device is held by the holder without the application of pressure by the user to a second position wherein the user maintains pressure on the holder to release the grippers at the same time from the scouring device without the user having to touch the scouring device during movement from the first position to the second position.

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Sub B.7
A 20
13. A method of gripping a scouring device comprising:

- 1) placing the scouring device in contact with a holder comprising:
 - a) a base;
 - b) a pair of opposed legs extending from the base, each leg comprising a central portion and an end portion; and
 - c) a gripping assembly positioned at the end portion and

including a gripping means comprising a plurality of spaced apart grippers movable in unison from a first position sufficient to enter the securing device at the same time

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to secure the holder to the scouring device to a second position
to release the scouring device,

2) applying pressure to the opposed legs at said central portion to
bring the opposed legs closer together, and

3) releasing the pressure on the opposed legs to thereby enable
the gripping means to move to said first position to secure the holder to the scouring
device.